



## SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT: RBC FOUNDATION



Newcomer artist Carlos Delgado live painting at the RBC Newcomer Artist Spotlight Program celebration, hosted by RBC.

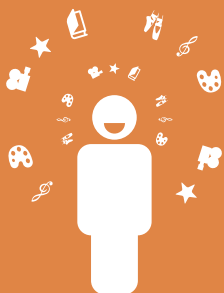
Toronto Arts Foundation and RBC Foundation have begun their second partnership year for the innovative RBC Newcomer Artist Spotlight Program, building on the potential of newcomer artists and removing the barriers they face when it comes to arts access. The RBC Newcomer Artist Spotlight is designed to connect and inspire newcomer artists who are Toronto's new generation of cultural leaders and innovators.

"RBC believes that the arts encourages a culture of creativity and innovation, and helps foster diversity and inclusion in our communities," said Rebecca Louzado, Director, Community and Cultural Marketing, RBC. "We are so proud to have been able to partner with the Toronto Arts Foundation and provide newcomers with the funding to pursue their artistic endeavours while building their lives in Canada."

The RBC Newcomer Artist Spotlight features three components: the **RBC Arts Access Fund**, the **Mentorship Program** and the **RBC Let's Talk Art** workshop series. **The RBC Arts Access Fund consists of micro awards of up to \$1,500 for newcomer artists looking to jump-start their community-engaged arts projects.** These awards will be tied to actual project needs, ranging from art supplies to space rental for an event. The first round of RBC Arts Access Fund recipients will be announced in early 2017.



Maria Bosnjak, VP, Greater Toronto Region at RBC, addressing guests at RBC Newcomer Artist Spotlight Program celebration. Photo by Sean Howard.



### TORONTO ARTS FACT

75% of Canadians believe that the arts make more integrated and healthier communities.

# STAFF SPOTLIGHT: TANYA OLEKSUIK WINS NASA GLOBAL COMPETITION



Tanya Oleksuik (pictured second from the left) and her NASA hackaton team

We recently sat down with Tanya Oleksuik, Communications Manager at East End Arts, to find out how she uses her creative side to court learning and align arts advocacy with other passions.

**TAF:** You identify as a proud proponent of the STEM to STEAM movement. Why is 2017 a critical moment in time to integrate arts and design into the STEM educational curriculum?

**TO:** Arts and design have always been components of each of the STEM elements, and the STEAM movement is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the creative processes that play an integral role in the sciences, engineering, and technology. STEAM can encourage more cross collaboration, and opens people up to exploring things in new ways.

**TAF:** What are you doing to ensure that

art is included in the equation? What can others do?

**TO:** I find ways to link ideas, concepts, projects, and people together, and look for opportunities for collaboration. I talk about STEAM a lot to people, and like to introduce the idea to those in STEM fields who may not have heard the term used before. I encourage people to invite artists to the table, bring artists into their conversations and planning processes, and to identify the areas where this collaboration already exists in their work. Most people understand the natural connection right away. You see the light bulb go off, they get it, and they see the value and importance of having art in the equation.

**TAF:** How do you go about marrying your interest in astronomy with the arts?

**TO:** This past spring, I participated in the 2016 NASA International Space Challenge. It brought together a diverse group of people with varying STEAM skills to develop creative solutions to NASA challenges. During the 48-hour hackaton in Toronto, I worked with a team to create Kid On The Moon, an interactive app for children to inspire the next generation of space explorers. My personal passions for astronomy, technology, and the arts all collided to contribute to this project. We won NASA's global competition for "Most Inspirational" project.

**TAF:** The NASA Space Apps challenge brings together engineers, artists, coders, storytellers and everyone in between. What do you think this type of event says about the scope of possibilities for those who wish to pursue the arts?

**TO:** The arts are for everyone. People are multi-dimensional, and we should celebrate and encourage people to enjoy a wide array of interests and learn a variety of skills. Wherever your passions lie, pursue and combine them. Experiment. Learn new things. Don't look for a roadmap, create your own. Use new technologies as tools to imagine new ways to observe, address, and solve challenges. Hackatons are a perfect example of how putting together groups of people with different backgrounds, skills, experiences, and styles can result in unique and creative solutions to challenges that may not have been realized without collaboration.

## LIGHTNING ROUND

**Q:** Over or under?

**A:** Over

**Q:** Coke or Pepsi?

**A:** Coffee

**Q:** Numbers or letters?

**A:** Don't make me choose!  
I love and use both every day.

**Q:** Leather or denim?

**A:** Denim

**Q:** Laundry or dishes?

**A:** Dishes

**Q:** Intimate shows or big concerts?

**A:** Intimate shows

**Q:** Ice cream or Froyo?

**A:** Ice cream

**Q:** Read or write?

**A:** Both!



# RBC ARTS ACCESS FUND

# Neighbourhood Arts Network

Neighbourhood Arts Network is thrilled to announce the return of our Newcomer Artist Spotlight Program! It will be launched for the second year with the return of **RBC Arts Access Fund**. These micro-awards of up to \$1,500 are given to newcomer artists to jumpstart their arts-based projects in local communities, or to aid in their professional development so that they can better strive to succeed in Toronto's diverse creative landscape.

Neighbourhood Arts Network remains dedicated to being responsive and supportive to the newcomer experience and providing a platform to discuss the complexities and challenges that emerge with moving to a new country. In the past, these awards ranged from the production of a short documentary that collages the narratives of migrant women to an exploration of trans-national narratives through the creation of recycled art.

In early 2017, RBC Arts Access Fund will be followed by a set of Let's Talk Art workshops, providing free professional development opportunities for newcomer artists and led by acclaimed professional artists, art leaders and creative businesses.

Finally, we will be launching an exciting new partnership with Toronto Arts



Photo by Sean Howard

Council: Newcomer & Refugee Mentorship Program. It addresses business and sustainability challenges that are faced by this group of working artists, while fostering the relationship between the business and the arts community. Six mentorship awards will be open to past

RBC Arts Access Fund recipients focused on developing their entrepreneurial skills in partnership with Work In Culture.

We are excited to continue this exciting endeavor as an ally in promoting the work of recent Canadian immigrants to our great city!



## CONGRATULATIONS CLAIRE! MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

On November 25, 2016, Claire Hopkinson, Director and CEO of Toronto Arts Council and Toronto Arts Foundation, was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal by His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada. This civil sector decoration recognizes outstanding accomplishments of visionaries that set an example for others across the country to follow.

Claire is recognized for her role in spearheading the "transformative initiatives led at the Toronto Arts Council and the Toronto Arts Foundation". She has been a catalyst for our artistic vision, Creative City: Block by Block, by bringing initiatives such as North York Arts, East End Arts, and Neighbourhood Arts Network to life. We, at the Foundation, are incredibly proud of Claire's achievements and her ongoing contribution to the liveability of Toronto!



Doris McCarthy Gallery workshop.  
Photo by Ken Jones.



## COMING UP

East End Arts is looking forward to an exciting year ahead. We will be offering a wide variety of events, activities, and opportunities for artists in the east end, supporting and nurturing creativity and culture in our communities:

- ▶ Canada 150 will be celebrated with events and activities, inviting the east end to take part in the milestone in creative and collaborative ways that celebrate the past and look ahead to the future
- ▶ East End Connects is a series of events, bringing together artists of different disciplines and community members for inclusive events and networking activities

For more details about upcoming East End Arts activities, events, artist opportunities, and how to stay involved, sign up for Arts-E-News to receive monthly updates, and visit our website at [eastendarts.ca](http://eastendarts.ca).

## TORONTO ARTS FOUNDATION

200-26 Grand Trunk Crescent  
Toronto, Ontario M5J 3A9  
t. 416.392.6802  
f. 416.392.6920  
[TorontoArtsFoundation.org](http://TorontoArtsFoundation.org)

Claire Hopkinson  
**DIRECTOR & CEO**

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathleen Sharpe, Chair  
Susan Crocker, Past Chair  
Andrew Walker, Secretary  
Harold Chmara, Treasurer  
Nova Bhattacharya  
Andréa Callà  
Neera Chopra  
Maureen Dodig  
Dilshad Hassen  
Hasan Makansi  
John D. McKellar, C.M., Q.C.  
Richard Paquet

### DIRECTOR EMERITUS

Diana Bennett

Toronto Arts Foundation would like to thank all our wonderful Board Members and volunteers for their support and countless hours of service to our organization. We appreciate all that you do!

For more information and to make a donation to the Toronto Arts Foundation, please contact:  
Michelle Yeung | x214 | [Michelle@TorontoArts.org](mailto:Michelle@TorontoArts.org)  
Help us be environmentally friendly by subscribing to email communications.

## FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION

Our donors are pacesetters for Creative City: Block by Block.

Thank you for your generous annual donations, for believing in our initiatives and the transformative social and economic benefits of the arts. Toronto Arts Foundation is very grateful for your generosity and support.

### CREATIVE CITY CIRCLE

**\$10,000+**

Cheryl & Manuel Buchwald  
Susan Crocker & John Hunkin  
Arthur Dalfen  
Katherine Rawlinson

**\$5,000 – \$9,999**

Martha Burns  
Randy Dalton  
Sir Joseph Flavelle Foundation  
Margaret & Jim Fleck  
John McKellar  
Richard Paquet & Elizabeth Pizzinato  
James & Sandra Pitblado

### GROUNDBREAKERS

**\$1,000+**

Anonymous  
Lisa Balfour Bowen & Walter Bowen  
Avie Bennett  
Jill Black  
Harold Chmara  
Neera Chopra  
Maureen & Victor Dodig  
Claire Hopkinson†  
Arda Ilgazli & Jennifer Green†  
Spencer Lanthier & Diana Bannett\*  
Hassan Makansi  
Sam Marinucci  
Micheline McKay  
Don Moffat\*  
Jack Ross  
Kathleen Sharpe  
Bulmash-Siegel Fund  
Kathleen Taylor  
Michael Minchella & Michelle Yeung†

### SUPPORTERS

**up to \$999**

Anonymous (8)  
A. Joel Adlestein\*  
Andrea Alexander  
David Angelo  
Angie Aranda†  
Curtis Barlow  
John Beckwith\*  
Anna Belayev  
Nova Bhattacharya & Mark Hammond  
Jeff Billard  
Joseph Borowiek  
Tony Boston  
Mary Brebner  
Bill & Arden Broadhurst  
George & Martha Butterfield  
Margo Chariton†  
Dylan Cohen  
Shawna Cotton  
Cherie Daly  
Danforth Brewery  
Douglas Davis  
Janet Davis  
Jane Deluzio  
Amber Dhall  
S. Dimitrakopoulos  
Colin Dobell  
Gino Falconi  
Graham Farquharson  
Beatrice Fischer  
Melissa Foster\*  
Sheila Foster  
Leslie Francombe  
Yonni Fushman & Betsy Klug  
Jenny Ginder  
Senator Jerry Grafstein  
The Betty and Joe Gray Family  
Foundation  
Hamazkayin Cultural Association  
Dilshad Hassen  
Peter Herndorf & Eva Czizler  
Mary Holmes  
Ruth Hood  
Joy Hughes\*  
Jackman Foundation  
Natalie Kaiser†  
Armen Karapetyan†  
Lila Karim†  
Shawn Kerwin  
Hyesoo Kim  
Korean Dance Studies Society  
Suzy Lake  
Susan Lappin  
Linda Lewis  
Chris Lorway & John Austin  
Jason Maghanoy  
Barbara McGivern

Dewi Minden  
Laurie Mitchell  
Melanie Morris  
Phillip Nimmons  
Tanya Oleksuik†  
Jay Paleja  
Parul Pandya†  
Michelle Parson†\*  
Francesca Perez†  
Clara Lou  
Lola Rasminsky  
Richard Reinert  
Jaclyn Rodrigues†  
Ely Rosenblum†  
Cindy Rozeboom†  
Karen Ryan  
Denise Schon  
Jerry Silverberg  
Kathleen Sloan  
Jini Stolk  
Jacqui Strachan  
Peter Tabuns  
Charles Tator  
R.H. Thomson  
Kim Tomczak & Lisa Steele\*  
Ryan Varga  
Vassanji Creative Productions  
The Vogls  
Andrew Walker  
Cindy Wan  
Mai Why  
Laurie Williams  
Yvonne Wilson  
Andrew Wright  
Susan Wright†  
Mark Wrogeman  
Hersh Zeifman  
Joyce & Fred Zemans  
In honour of Maisie Fuss  
In honour of Cathy Joslin  
In honour of Lawrence Kolasa  
In honour of David Mirvish  
In honour of Stephen Ranger  
In honour of Andrea Simpson  
In honour of my brother Karl  
In memory of Garry Bowers

\* 10 years of giving or more. † Staff member. Recognition as of January 5, 2017.  
Please contact Michelle Yeung to change your recognition at x214 or [michelle@torontoarts.org](mailto:michelle@torontoarts.org)